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INFO RUCNMEM/EU MEMBER STATES COLLECTIVE  
RUEHZL/EUROPEAN POLITICAL COLLECTIVE  
RUEHBS/USEU BRUSSELS  
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C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 000952

SIPDIS

DEPARTMENT FOR EUR/SE

E.O. 12958: DECL: 12/03/2018  
TAGS: [PREL](#) [PGOV](#) [ETRD](#) [CY](#)  
SUBJECT: CYPRUS: DEMARCHE DELIVERED FOR DECEMBER 8-9  
FOREIGN MINISTERS MEETING (GAERC)

REF: SECSTATE 127023

Classified By: DCM Jonathan Cohen, Reasons 1.4(b), (d)

(C) Poloff on December 3 delivered Reftel points on the December 8-9 meeting of the EU's General Affairs and External Relations Council to GAERC action officer George Samouel in the MFA's European Union Affairs department. Declining to offer substantive responses on most topics, Samouel promised to relay our positions to the Ministry's Permanent Secretary (D-equivalent) and relevant desk officers for their consideration. On Turkey's accession to the European Union, however, he offered the standard MFA line: Cyprus supports Turkey's eventual EU membership, but the GoT must first enact needed reforms and normalize relations with all member states (in other words, it must recognize the Republic of Cyprus).  
Urbancic